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Washington LABOR MARKET

JOB SERVICE

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Washington State
Employment Security
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Commissioner

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In cooperation with the
Employment and Training
Administration
U.S. Department of Labor

Highlights

Nothing But The Patter Of Seasons

Washington's economy showed little other than normal reaction to seasonal trends in October. The weather turned abruptly from summer to fall. And like the clouds, the business climate darkened over the month as the lack of any perceptible thrust in the economy collided with the usual pullback in seasonal industries. The result was a seasonally adjusted job count which stayed 30,000 below the peak in February.

Correspondingly, the unemployment rate heightened in October as fairly typical reductions began in manufacturing, construction, services, and trade. That pattern will be repeated over the next several months with the exception of the Christmas buildup in trade and services. Traditionally,

Volume 15, Number 11

the economy reaches its low point sometime either in January or February and then proceeds to heighten into early spring.

But over the past year, the pull of recession has acted to constrain the usual pattern on the upside. And the same forces will add further weight on the downside as well. The State Office of the Forecast Council is projecting a 5,800-worker seasonally adjusted decline in the fourth quarter and another 800 in the first quarter before the economy begins a gradual recovery, likely in the second quarter of 1992.

LABOR FORCE AND UNEMPLOYMENT

Washington's unemployment rate increased from 5.4 percent to 5.6 percent of the workforce in October. Normally an uptick occurs at this time of year as seasonal industries throughout the state scale back with the onset of wetter weather. This year was no exception. However, the added factor this time around was a slower economic pace which has consistently kept statewide unemployment tracking higher than a year ago ever since January.

Basically, the level of joblessness this year is echoing the pattern of 1988-89. Nineteen-ninety proved to be the last ***hurrah*** in what amounted to an unprecedented string of growth years for the state. And accordingly, unemployment dropped last year to levels not seen since the late-1960s. The seasonally adjusted average for the first ten months of 1991 computes to 6.1 percent - not much different from the full year tally of 6.2 percent jobless posted in both 1988 and 1989. This time, however, the rate is rising rather than falling as was the case two years ago.

Yet Washington continues to look better than most other states in the nation. Two thirds of the states posted an unemployment rate higher than Washington's in October, and despite the slowdown, the state proceeds to track below the national average for the second consecutive year. The state generally evidences a greater degree of seasonality than the nation as a whole. Hence, the spread between the state and the nation widened in tandem with the weather in 1991

Resident Civilian Labor Force
Employment and Unemployment in Washington State

	Oct 1991 *Preliminary*	Sep 1991 *Revised*	Oct 1990
Resident Civilian Labor Force	2,498,200	2,481,300	2,470,200
Employment	2,357,600	2,346,400	2,361,800
Unemployment	140,600	134,900	108,400
Unemployment Rate	5.6%	5.4%	4.4%
National Unemployment Rate	6.4%	6.4%	5.4%

Data in this table are not seasonally adjusted.
Source: Employment Security Department; Bureau of Labor Statistics

from a close 0.2 percent in the first quarter to a much larger 0.9 percent in the third quarter and 0.8 percent in October. The final two months should not show much change.

INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS

Total nonfarm wage and salary employment dropped only 300 workers in October as losses in both manufacturing and nonmanufacturing were offset by additional gains in state and local education (+21,200) as hiring proceeded for the fall term. Most of these additions simply reflected return-to-work of nonteaching staff traditionally furloughed during the off-summer months. Any new hiring over and above the same period last year was minimal.

On the other hand, payrolls in the basic goods-producing sectors fell over the month by 2,900 workers - the same as a year before. Normal seasonal declines took place in lumber and wood products (-800), food processing (-1,200), and stone, clay and glass (-200). In addition, some cyclical losses showed up in industrial machinery (-300), primary and fabricated metals (-200), and paper and allied products (-400). Aerospace cut 100 jobs, but shipbuilding countered with a 200-worker gain.

Retailing On The Ropes

The services economy followed suit. Wholesale and retail trade pulled back by 5,500 workers in a period marking the lull between the traditional back-to-school and Christmas shopping peaks. Under normal circumstances, the next two months should be expected to witness something on the

order of a 10,000-worker increase. But the trade sector on balance has weakened more than any other part of the economy since the first of the year. And with consumer confidence continuing to wane, there is every chance that hiring this year will be somewhat more restrained.

A turnabout in consumer buying is key to the recovery. The consumer accounts for fully two-thirds of Gross National Product and without that ***kick*** the economy is destined to languish pretty much as it is. Action on the part of the Fed has aggressively driven interest rates down in recent months which, in turn, should spur demand for big-ticket items and create additional spendable income through sizable mortgage refinancing. It has also now become a political reality that the Administration must act at least to some degree in order to assure that the economy is not an overriding issue come the 1992 elections.

Services Pull In The Reins

Services drifted lower by 4,000 workers in October as summer faded into fall. Labor Day traditionally marks an end to Washington's prime recreation and tourist season although some of the job totals are extended into late September by the 17-day run of the giant Western Washington State Fair. Employment at hotels and lodging facilities (-1,500), business services (-300), and amusements and recreation (-2,900) dropped significantly over the month. The changes, however, were nothing more than expected.

On the other hand, health services expanded by 400 and private colleges and universities added another 2,100 workers in October. The latter simply paralleled the hiring taking place in public education over the month. Health care, on the other hand, continues to expand irrespective of the posture of the business cycle. An ever aging and an expanding population stand behind the numbers. But in addition, the thrust toward specialized treatment centers and home health care services is adding to the total.

Construction Drops Seasonally

Meanwhile, construction employment dropped by 2,800 workers over the month. Nothing unusual here. General

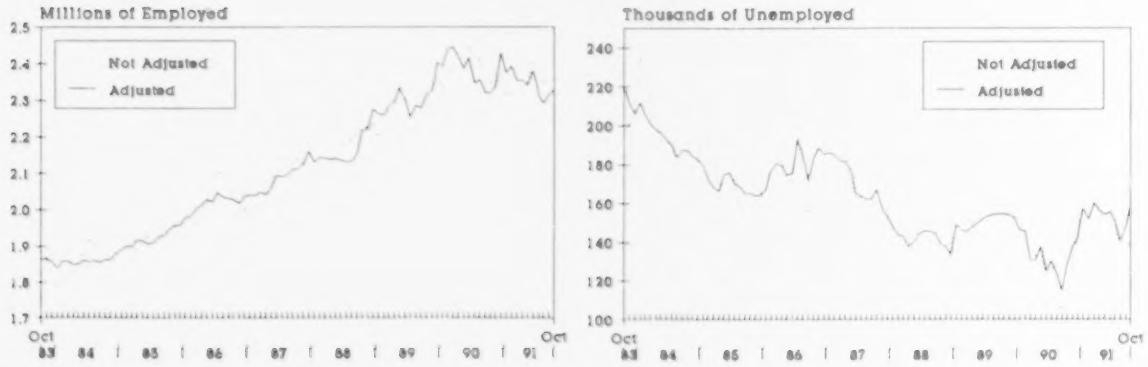
building scaled back in both the residential (-500) and non-residential (-600) fields. And heavy construction pulled back by 500 as the weather turned increasingly sour. What is unusual is the fact that the special trades segment of the industry has now joined the rest. Payrolls among special trade contractors are no longer showing the degree of strength which up until June had kept employment levels running well above a year ago. In the past four months, that margin has done an about-face to the tune of 2,400 jobs.

Year-to-Year Hanging On the Edge

Washington's total nonfarm employment was up merely 500 workers over the year in October. The annual margin has progressively narrowed ever since the first of the year when a 70,000 net gain was reported. Both construction (-7,400) and trade (-10,100), in particular, have taken it on the chin this year. Manufacturing payrolls have been trimmed 5,600 over the past 12 months, half in lumber and wood products (-1,800) and the rest distributed fairly evenly in industrial machinery (-1,300), primary metals (-800), and transportation equipment other than aerospace (-1,300).

The employment bright spots continue to be centered in government (+16,400) and services (+8,800). Typically, these two sectors are less prone to cyclical changes and more responsive to overall growth in population and personal income. Even in the face of the current economic downturn, statewide population is estimated to be rising in the neighborhood of 2 to 2.5 percent - better than twice the

Washington State Total Resident Employment and Unemployment
October 1983 - October 1991



Source: Employment Security Department

national average. And real personal income is figured to have risen close to 2.5 percent in the most recent fiscal year after a high of 5 percent in both 1989 and 1990.

AREA TRENDS

Wrapping Up For Fall

Little change in unemployment occurred in October throughout most of the state's major metropolitan areas. The average moved higher by one-tenth of a percentage point to 5.3 percent from 5.2 percent a month before. Holding back the movement were modest changes in Seattle (4.5 to 4.6 percent), Bremerton (steady at 4.9 percent), Vancouver (6.2 to 6.1 percent), and Yakima (7.7 to 7.8 percent). Tacoma (6.1 percent) and Spokane (5.9 percent) moved higher by three-tenths and six-tenths of a percentage point, respectively. But the offset was a drop of three-tenths in the Tri-Cities (6.8 to 6.5 percent) and specifically the Franklin County portion of the SMSA (10.0 to 8.4 percent).

Divergent trends characterized much of the balance of the state. Harvesting of the commercial apple crop pulled unemployment down uniformly throughout the chief producing areas: Chelan and Douglas counties (from 6.6 to 5.7 percent), Okanogan (from 8.3 to 6.6 percent), and the above mentioned Franklin County portion of the Tri-Cities. The rest of the agricultural areas showed an uptick as summer eroded into fall. But the biggest change over the month took place in the timber-dependent counties where joblessness mounted on average from 7.6 percent to 8.3 percent of the workforce. The average for a year ago stood at 6.8 percent.

Unemployment Rates by Geographic Areas
State of Washington

Areas	Oct 1991	Sep 1991	Oct 1990
Washington State Total	5.6%	5.4%	4.4%
Metropolitan Areas	5.3%	5.2%	4.1%
Log & Lumber Areas	8.3%	7.6%	6.8%
All Western WA Areas	5.4%	5.1%	4.1%
All Eastern WA Areas	6.4%	6.5%	5.6%

Source: Employment Security Department

INDUSTRY NOTES

Boeing Issues Early Warning

The Boeing Company has notified 562 workers of possible layoff by February 18th in what amounts to a third go-around of personnel action. Earlier layoff warnings were issued to 605 workers and then 152 workers for possible cutback effective in early January. New federal law requires that large employers give workers two months advance notice of pending reductions in force. There is no assurance, however, that all workers will lose their jobs: 323 of the second-round notifications were placed elsewhere within the company. Defense cuts and lower output of the 737 jetliner in 1992 stand behind the latest staffing adjustments.

Timber Sales Skid

Federal court action to protect the northern spotted owl has resulted (not surprisingly) in the lowest Forest Service timber sales since 1953. The 6.4 billion board feet of timber sold in fiscal year 1991 was 30 percent below the 9.5 billion board feet set by Congress as the target for the 12-month period and the lowest since 4.7 billion in the early-1950s. Sixteen federal timber tracts were put off limits by federal court action in 1991 after environmentalists successfully challenged the 1989 compromise measure. In the interim, the U.S. Forest Service has been ordered to come up with a management plan by March 5th, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is currently working on an owl recovery plan.

Agriculture Booming Along

On the other side of the state, long-term growth in agriculture is proving a boon to the economy. Increased exports, expanded irrigation, and greater diversification has succeeded in boosting the value of Pacific Northwest farm products more than 40 percent in the past ten years - twice the national average. Washington crops and livestock brought $3.8 billion in farm cash receipts in 1990, up 46 percent from 1980 compared to 22 percent of the nation as a whole.

Commodity values for fruits and nuts nearly doubled from $477 million in 1985 to $823 million in 1990 driven mostly

by apples. Washington led the nation in apple production last year, was second in potatoes and grapes, third in hay, and fifth in wheat and barley. In addition, the state is a major player in such specialty crops as hops, mint and asparagus. Overall, Washington ranked 9th nationally in crop production at $2.4 billion and 23rd in livestock at $1.4 billion in 1990.

NATIONAL INDICATORS

Industrial Output Flat

The index of industrial production was unchanged in October after inching up 0.2 percent in September and falling 0.1 percent in August. This see-saw action over the past three months adds further evidence to the premise that the national economy has probably stalled. American industry operated at less than 80 percent of capacity in the latest month - the lowest since June. Through mid-summer, the nation's industrial sector had been seen as leading the economy out of recession. More needs to be done.

Economy Weaker Than Hinted

From a statistical standpoint, the nation's economy pulled out of recession last spring but weakened through the summer. Gross Domestic Product - the total value of goods and services produced within the nation's borders - edged up at an anemic 1.7 percent annual rate from July to September. Earlier reporting had pegged the increase at 2.5 percent for the quarter. Consumer spending, which accounts for roughly two-thirds of the total economy, proved weaker in the final tally than previously estimated.

Consumers Not Ready To Bolt

Consumer spending fell a sharp 0.4 percent in October, after adjusting for inflation, to an annual rate of $3.95 trillion. One culprit was the scant increase in after-tax personal income, which edged up over the month only 0.1 percent in real terms. As a reflection of the mood, consumer confidence plunged in November to lows akin to those of the 1981-82 recession.

Leading To Nothing But Calm On The Inflation Front

Collaterally, the lack of any drive in the economy has kept prices under wraps. Consumer prices inched up 0.1 percent in October - the slowest increase in seven months. Even excluding the volatile food and energy components, costs to consumers were up only 0.1 percent after hikes of 0.4 percent in each of the previous two months. For the 12 months ending in October, the overall national consumer price index has risen 2.9 percent compared to an average of 5.4 percent in 1990. Clearly, this kind of environment gives the Federal Reserve some elbow room in which to maneuver in its effort to jump-start the economy through lower interest rates.

Consumer Price Index
(All Items, Urban Consumers, 1982-1984 = 100)

	Indexes			% Change From	
U.S. City Average	Oct 91	Sep 91	Oct 90	Sep 91	Oct 90
	137.4	137.2	133.5	0.1%	2.9%
Seattle†	Jan-Jun 1991	Jul-Dec 1990	Jan-Jun 1990	Jul-Dec 1990	Jan-Jun 1990
	133.0	129.4	124.2	2.8%	7.1%

†The index for Seattle reflects prices in King, Pierce, and Snohomish Counties.
Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Prepared by Dennis Fusco, Chief Economist

Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Workers in Washington State, Place of Work[1]

In Thousands, Not Seasonally Adjusted

Industry	Oct 1991 (Prel)	Sep 1991 (Rev)	Oct 1990 (Rev)	Sep 1990 (Rev)	Numeric Change: Sep 1991 to Oct 1991	Numeric Change: Oct 1990 to Oct 1991
Total Nonagricultural Wage & Salary	2,199.4	2,199.7	2,198.9	2,197.0	-0.3	0.5
Manufacturing	367.1	370.0	372.7	375.6	-2.9	-5.6
Durable Goods	255.1	256.6	260.9	262.2	-1.5	-5.8
Lumber & Wood Products	37.7	38.5	40.5	41.3	-0.8	-2.8
Logging	9.1	9.4	10.3	10.3	-0.3	-1.2
Sawmills & Plywood	24.8	25.2	26.3	27.1	-0.4	-1.5
Furniture & Fixtures	3.9	3.9	4.2	4.2	0.0	-0.3
Stone, Clay & Glass	7.7	7.9	7.7	8.0	-0.2	0.0
Primary Metals	12.1	12.2	12.9	13.1	-0.1	-0.8
Aluminum	8.5	8.6	8.9	9.0	-0.1	-0.4
Fabricated Metals	12.8	12.9	12.7	12.8	-0.1	0.1
Industrial Machinery & Equipment	19.2	19.5	20.5	20.6	-0.3	-1.3
Computer & Office Equipment	6.2	6.4	6.4	6.4	-0.2	-0.2
Electronic & Other Electrical Equipment	12.0	12.0	11.7	11.5	0.0	0.3
Transportation Equipment	129.7	129.7	129.9	129.9	0.0	-0.2
Aircraft & Parts	117.0	117.1	115.9	115.5	-0.1	1.1
Instruments & Related	13.7	13.7	14.2	14.3	0.0	-0.5
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	6.3	6.3	6.6	6.5	0.0	-0.3
Nondurable Goods	112.0	113.4	111.8	113.4	-1.4	0.2
Food & Kindred Products	40.4	41.6	40.5	41.7	-1.2	-0.1
Preserved Fruits & Vegetables	15.8	16.3	15.4	16.5	-0.5	0.4
Textiles, Apparel & Leather	8.0	7.9	8.4	8.4	0.1	-0.4
Paper & Allied Products	17.7	18.1	17.8[2]	18.2[2]	-0.4	-0.1
Printing & Publishing	22.9	22.8	22.7	22.6	0.1	0.2
Chemicals & Allied Products	13.8	13.8	13.3	13.3	0.0	0.5
Petroleum, Coal, Plastics	9.2	9.2	9.1	9.2	0.0	0.1
Mining & Quarrying	3.7	3.7	3.9	4.0	0.0	-0.2
Construction	120.5	123.3	127.9	129.3	-2.8	-7.4
General Building Contractors	33.6	34.7	38.4	39.0	-1.1	-4.8
Heavy Construction, except Buildings	18.1	18.6	18.4	18.9	-0.5	-0.3
Special Trade Contractors	68.7	69.9	71.1	71.4	-1.2	-2.4
Transportation, Communication & Utilities	115.0	116.1	115.9	116.2	-1.1	-0.9
Transportation	80.0	81.0	80.9	81.1	-1.0	-0.9
Trucking & Warehousing	33.1	33.2	33.1	32.5	-0.1	0.0
Water Transportation	9.2	9.8	9.6	10.0	-0.6	-0.4
Transportation by Air	15.8	15.9	16.0	16.1	-0.1	-0.2
Communications	25.0	25.0	25.3	25.3	0.0	-0.3
Electric, Gas & Sanitary Services	10.0	10.1	9.7	9.8	-0.1	0.3
Wholesale & Retail Trade	518.3	523.8	528.4	531.9	-5.5	-10.1
Wholesale Trade	129.8	130.9	132.3	133.9	-1.1	-2.5
Retail Trade	388.5	392.9	396.1	398.0	-4.4	-7.6
General Merchandise	37.7	37.6	38.4	38.6	0.1	-0.7
Food Stores	63.9	65.4	66.1	65.6	-1.5	-2.2
Eating & Drinking	143.6	146.3	145.2	147.6	-2.7	-1.6
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	117.9	118.5	118.4	118.8	-0.6	-0.5
Finance	51.0	51.1	51.6	51.8	-0.1	-0.6
Services	534.3	538.3	525.5	525.9	-4.0	8.8
Hotels & Lodging	25.7	27.2	26.9	27.4	-1.5	-1.2
Personal Services	21.3	21.6	21.9	21.8	-0.3	-0.6
Business Services	90.7	91.0	89.9	90.0	-0.3	0.8
Health Services	158.9	158.5	151.9	151.1	0.4	7.0
Educational Services	25.4	23.3	24.3	22.2	2.1	1.1
Social Services	37.1	36.9	35.1	34.9	0.2	2.0
Engineering & Management Services	48.3	48.6	46.6	46.9	-0.3	1.7
Government	422.6	406.0	406.2	395.3	16.6	16.4
Federal	73.7	74.3	72.3	72.9	-0.6	1.4
State	125.0	114.1	119.2	109.6	10.9	5.8
State Education	65.4	54.1	63.0	52.4	11.3	2.4
Local	223.9	217.6	214.7	212.8[2]	6.3	9.2
Local Education	120.6	110.7	115.7	105.3[2]	9.9	4.9
Labor-Management Disputes	0.0	0.0	0.3	1.0	0.0	-0.3

[1]Excludes proprietors, self-employed, members of armed forces, and private household employees. Includes all full- and part-time wage and salary workers receiving pay during the pay period including the 12th of the month.

[2]Workers excluded because of involvement in labor-management disputes.

Washington State
Employment Security Department
Labor Market and Economic Analysis

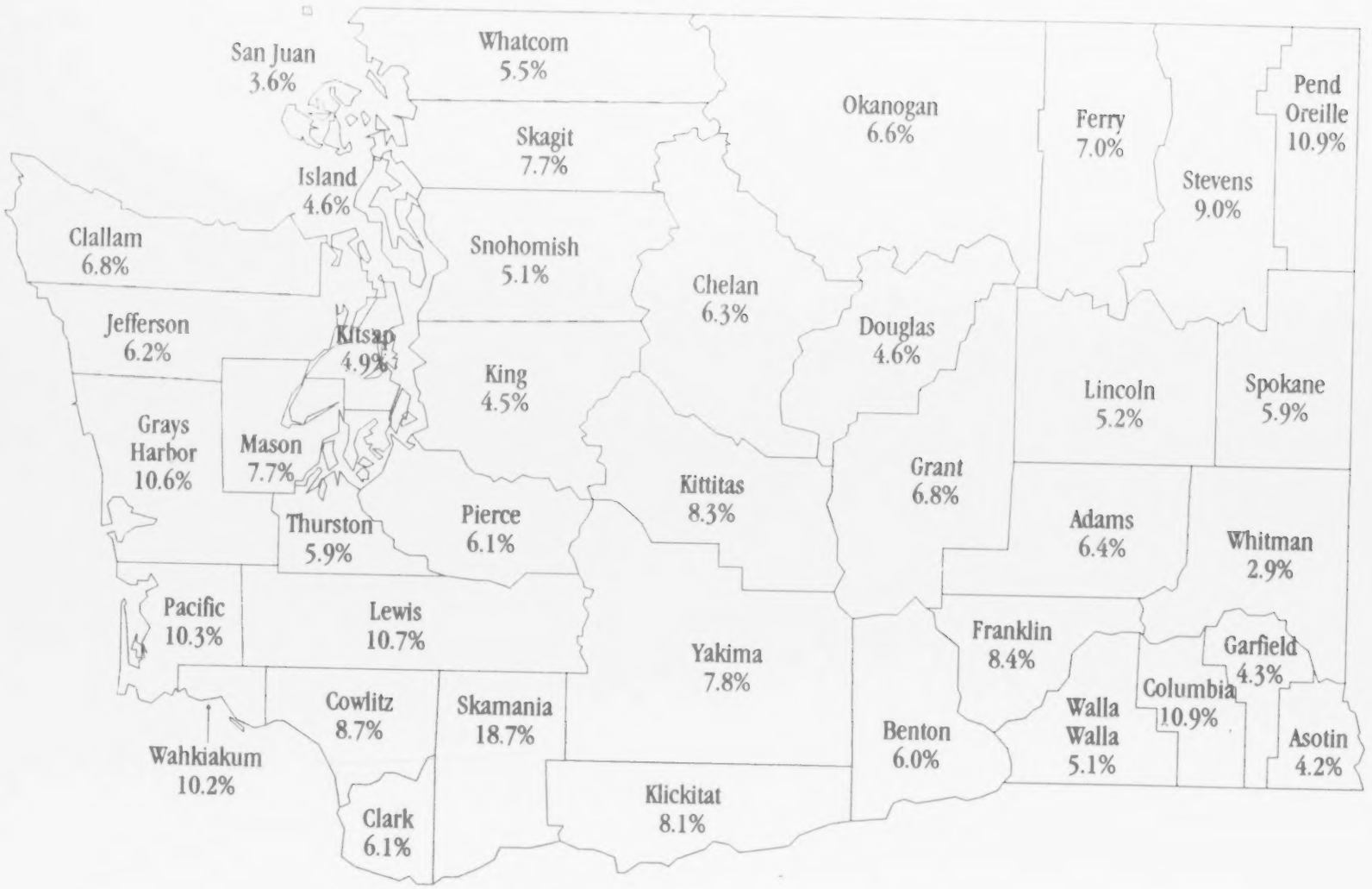
Resident Labor Force and Employment in Washington State and Labor Market Areas

Date: 12/3/91
Benchmark: 1990

	October 1991 Preliminary†				September 1991 Revised†				October 1990 Revised†			
	Labor Force	Employ-ment	Unemploy-ment	Unemploy-ment Rate	Labor Force	Employ-ment	Unemploy-ment	Unemploy-ment Rate	Labor Force	Employ-ment	Unemploy-ment	Unemploy-ment Rate
Washington State Total	2,498,200	2,357,600	140,600	5.6	2,481,300	2,346,400	134,900	5.4	2,470,200	2,361,800	108,400	4.4
Bellingham MSA	69,700	65,900	3,800	5.5	68,200	64,800	3,400	5.0	68,300	65,400	2,900	4.2
Bremerton MSA	83,600	79,500	4,100	4.9	83,200	79,100	4,100	4.9	81,500	78,200	3,300	4.0
Olympia MSA	83,000	78,100	4,900	5.9	81,800	77,400	4,400	5.4	81,100	77,000	4,100	5.1
Seattle PMSA	1,115,600	1,064,100	51,500	4.6	1,109,000	1,059,000	50,000	4.5	1,106,300	1,069,100	37,200	3.4
King County ‡	880,300	840,700	39,600	4.5	875,200	836,700	38,500	4.4	873,400	844,700	28,700	3.3
Snohomish County ‡	235,300	223,400	11,900	5.1	233,900	222,300	11,600	5.0	232,900	224,400	8,500	3.6
Spokane MSA	171,700	161,600	10,100	5.9	169,100	160,100	9,000	5.3	169,600	161,500	8,100	4.8
Tacoma PMSA	245,700	230,600	15,100	6.1	241,100	227,000	14,100	5.8	249,300	237,800	11,500	4.6
Tri-Cities MSA	74,900	70,000	4,900	6.5	75,500	70,400	5,100	6.8	71,100	66,900	4,200	5.9
Benton County ‡	58,300	54,800	3,500	6.0	58,500	55,100	3,400	5.8	55,400	52,400	3,000	5.4
Franklin County ‡	16,600	15,200	1,400	8.4	17,000	15,300	1,700	10.0	15,800	14,500	1,300	8.2
Vancouver PMSA	128,500	120,600	7,900	6.1	128,000	120,100	7,900	6.2	128,800	122,700	6,100	4.7
Yakima MSA	105,400	97,200	8,200	7.8	106,000	97,800	8,200	7.7	102,500	95,500	7,000	6.8
Adams	7,970	7,460	510	6.4	8,850	7,830	1,020	11.5	7,370	6,960	410	5.6
Asotin	9,540	9,140	400	4.2	9,330	9,000	330	3.5	9,380	9,010	370	3.9
Clallam	23,410	21,820	1,590	6.8	23,880	22,380	1,500	6.3	23,910	22,420	1,490	6.2
Columbia	1,280	1,140	140	10.9	1,210	1,090	120	9.9	1,210	1,080	130	10.7
Cowlitz	39,040	35,630	3,410	8.7	38,080	35,150	2,930	7.7	38,270	35,800	2,470	6.5
Ferry	3,140	2,920	220	7.0	3,140	2,940	200	6.4	3,220	3,030	190	5.9
Garfield	940	900	40	4.3	940	910	30	3.2	960	920	40	4.2
Grant	28,460	26,520	1,940	6.8	28,760	26,710	2,050	7.1	26,780	25,090	1,690	6.3
Grays Harbor	25,400	22,720	2,680	10.6	25,170	22,870	2,300	9.1	25,770	23,690	2,080	8.1
Island	21,790	20,780	1,010	4.6	22,050	21,130	920	4.2	21,430	20,730	700	3.3
Jefferson	8,860	8,310	550	6.2	8,970	8,520	450	5.0	8,800	8,390	410	4.7
Kittitas	13,070	11,980	1,090	8.3	12,990	11,960	1,030	7.9	12,090	11,450	640	5.3
Klickitat	8,000	7,350	650	8.1	8,240	7,570	670	8.1	7,800	7,170	630	8.1
Lewis	23,940	21,370	2,570	10.7	23,240	21,120	2,120	9.1	24,720	22,700	2,020	8.2
Lincoln	4,050	3,840	210	5.2	4,240	4,080	160	3.8	4,010	3,870	140	3.5
Mason	16,100	14,860	1,240	7.7	15,530	14,480	1,050	6.8	14,530	13,820	710	4.9
Okanogan	22,430	20,940	1,490	6.6	21,090	19,340	1,750	8.3	19,520	18,240	1,280	6.6
Pacific	7,460	6,690	770	10.3	7,390	6,790	600	8.1	7,490	6,860	630	8.4
Pend Oreille	3,210	2,860	350	10.9	3,080	2,790	290	9.4	3,130	2,820	310	9.9
San Juan	6,050	5,830	220	3.6	6,900	6,690	210	3.0	6,000	5,870	130	2.2
Skagit	40,450	37,320	3,130	7.7	40,360	37,830	2,530	6.3	39,350	37,130	2,220	5.6
Skamania	2,140	1,740	400	18.7	2,100	1,740	360	17.1	2,030	1,810	220	10.8
Stevens	11,410	10,380	1,030	9.0	11,430	10,540	890	7.8	11,060	10,200	860	7.8
Wahkiakum	1,270	1,140	130	10.2	1,170	1,090	80	6.8	1,160	1,080	80	6.9
Walla Walla	23,280	22,090	1,190	5.1	23,010	21,690	1,320	5.7	23,360	22,240	1,120	4.8
Wenatchee Labor Area	48,970	46,170	2,800	5.7	49,540	46,260	3,280	6.6	49,170	46,500	2,670	5.4
Chelan County ‡	32,660	30,610	2,050	6.3	33,030	30,670	2,360	7.1	32,610	30,830	1,780	5.5
Douglas County ‡	16,310	15,560	750	4.6	16,520	15,590	930	5.6	16,550	15,670	880	5.3
Whitman	18,600	18,060	540	2.9	18,600	18,030	570	3.1	19,150	18,780	370	1.9

†Official U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics data. ‡Estimates are determined by using the Population/Claims Share disaggregation methodology.
Note: Detail may not add due to rounding.

October 1991 Unemployment Rates
State of Washington = 5.6%



Estimated Average Hours and Earnings of Production Workers in Manufacturing and of Nonsupervisory Workers in Nonmanufacturing Activities, Washington State

	Preliminary October Production Workers & Nonsupervisory Workers	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
		Oct 91	Sep 91	Oct 90	Oct 91	Sep 91	Oct 90	Oct 91	Sep 91	Oct 90
Total Manufacturing Industries†	214,283	$546.32	$542.04	$520.43	40.2	40.3	40.5	$13.59	$13.45	$12.85
Selected Manufacturing Industries										
Lumber and Wood Products	31,153	$469.13	$483.61	$460.75	38.9	40.1	40.1	$12.06	$12.06	$11.49
Primary Metal Industries	9,516	$591.47	$603.22	$560.28	41.8	42.6	42.0	$14.15	$14.16	$13.34
Fabricated Metal Products	10,272	$526.24	$540.54	$488.35	41.6	41.2	40.9	$12.65	$13.12	$11.94
Machinery	19,130	$438.26	$437.08	$441.57	39.2	39.2	41.0	$11.18	$11.15	$10.77
Food and Kindred Products	29,817	$400.40	$395.14	$374.58	40.0	39.2	39.1	$10.01	$10.08	$9.58
Chemical and Allied Products	4,562	$722.79	$763.48	$690.69	43.1	44.7	42.9	$16.77	$17.08	$16.10
Transportation Equipment	56,246	$713.39	$681.44	$671.40	41.5	41.1	42.2	$17.19	$16.58	$15.91
Selected Nonmanufacturing Industries										
Construction	92,984	$696.68	$726.54	$662.49	38.3	39.4	37.9	$18.19	$18.44	$17.48
Wholesale and Retail Trade (Includes eating and drinking establishments)	458,869	$298.30	$308.75	$283.98	31.4	32.5	30.8	$9.50	$9.50	$9.22

†Average hourly earnings for all manufacturing production workers reported in this table do not exactly reflect the official US Bureau of Labor Statistics definition of "wages." While these data still constitute a valid economic indicator series, they should not be used at this time for the negotiation of contracts whose monetary provisions may depend upon official US Bureau of Labor Statistics hourly earning data.

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